

PRESS RELEASE

Congressman John Conyers, Jr.

**Fourteenth District, Michigan
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
Dean, Congressional Black Caucus**

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Conyers Calls Ashcroft Report Wartime Propaganda

Congressman John Conyers, Jr., Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee issued the following statement today in response to the Attorney General's recent comments regarding the possibility of interviewing 3000 more Arab and Muslim Americans:

“The suggestion that Arab and Muslim Americans appreciate being singled out and interrogated is a prime example of the Attorney General's wartime propaganda machine in full swing. While they are more than willing to contribute to the war against terrorism, the national leadership of Arab and Muslim organizations have expressed to me their outrage over this illegal form of racial profiling.

Spreading lies and misleading the American public will only further alienate hard working Americans and divide the country. While the Bush Administration speaks of uniting the nation, its continued racial profiling, interrogation and detention of thousands of Arab and Muslims is having the opposite effect. It is time for the President to realize that the only thing these practices will secure is the downfall of democratic freedoms in America.”

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